# Detectability of redshifted iron line features in AGN

#### **Chris Reynolds**

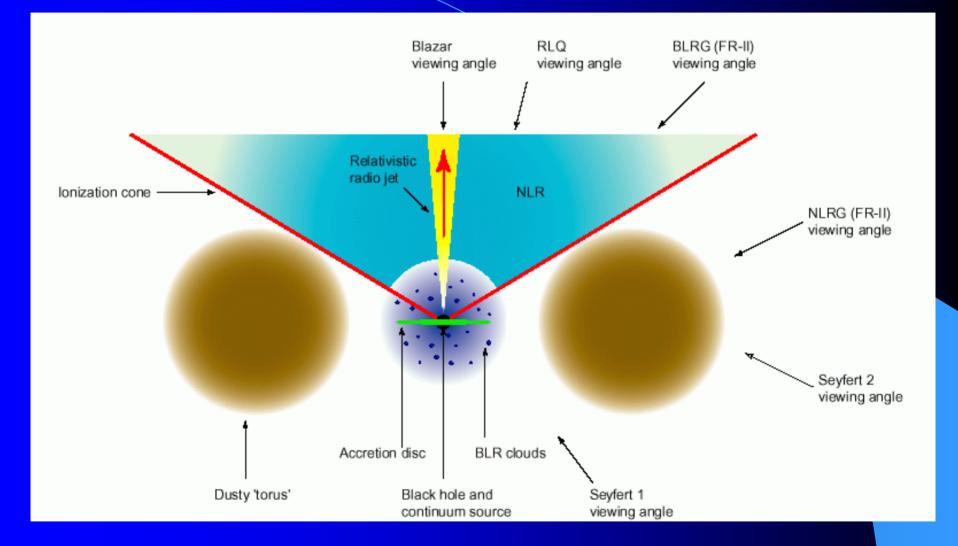
Department of Astronomy University of Maryland

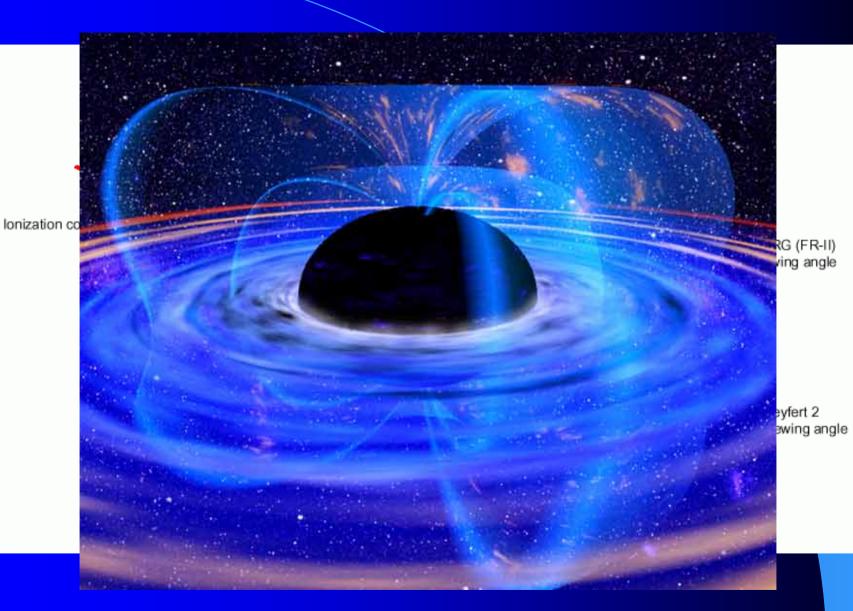


Constellation-X FST meeting 15th February 2006

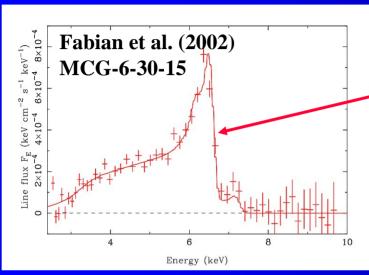
#### Outline

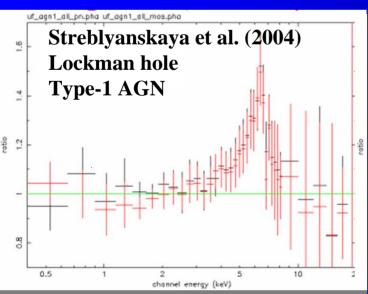
- The importance and diagnostic power of iron line spectroscopy in black hole systems
  - Detailed sensitivity calculations and simulations
- The take-home messages...
  - Constellation-X will pioneer investigations of spacetime geometry in accreting black hole systems
  - There are <u>specific</u> diagnostics that are <u>within reach</u> of the baseline Constellation-X design
  - Future trade-off studies... important to preserve (or extend) effective area in 4-6keV band
- A note on a new probe of AGN Feedback...





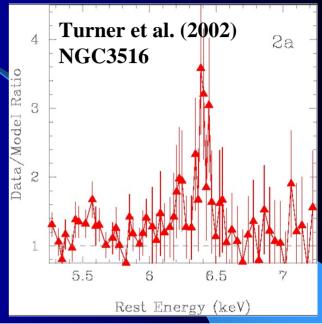
### Where are we now?

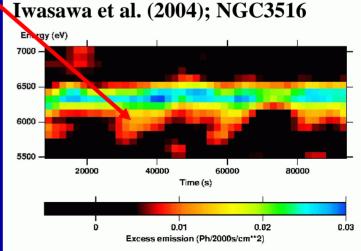


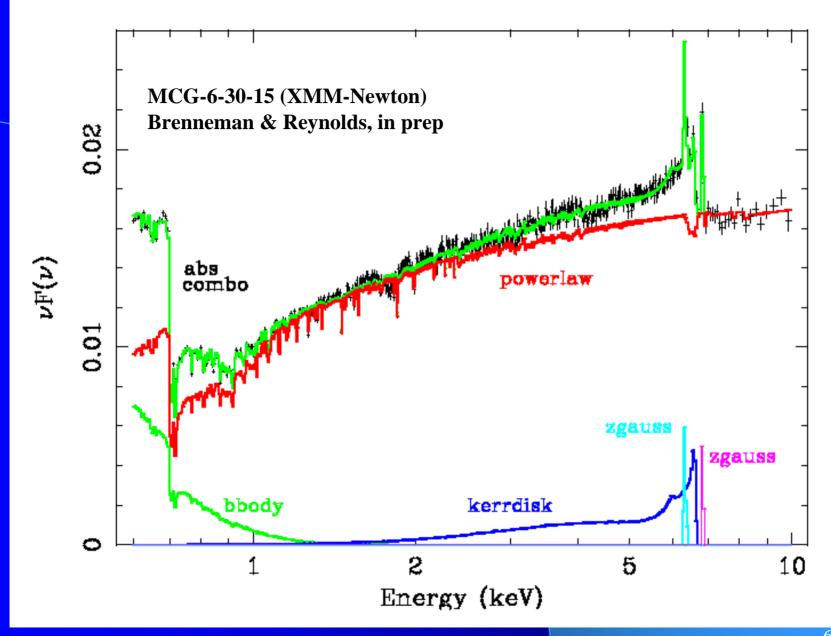


Broad iron lines from accretion disk (r~2GM/c²) around rapidly spinning black holes

Lines from orbiting hotspots at  $r\sim20GM/c^2$ 





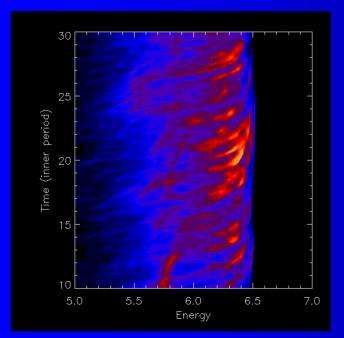


### The next step: Constellation-X

**Click picture to play** 

Click picture to play





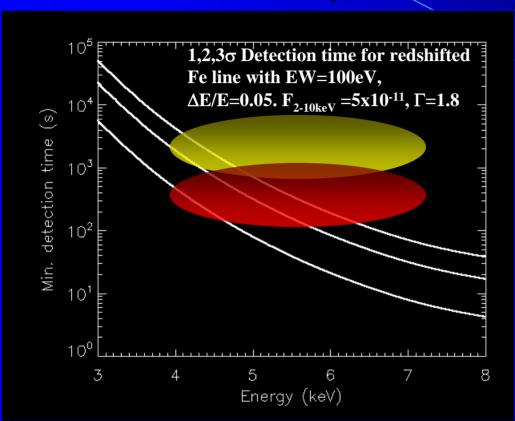


Analysis of iron line variability (from orbital motion of disk & reverberation effects) allows to to separate effects of

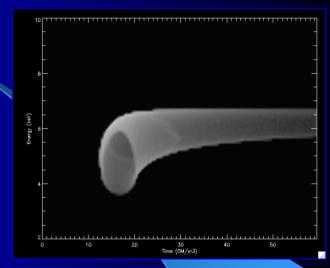
- Accretion disk physics
- Spacetime geometry

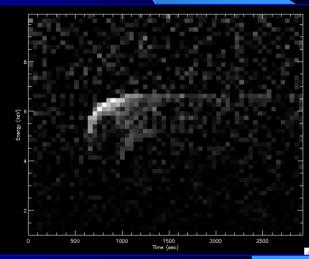
Requires superior collecting area of Constellation-X

#### **Detectability with Constellation-X**



Ellipses give an indication for ability of Constellation-X to detect orbital variability (yellow region) and reverberation effects (red region).

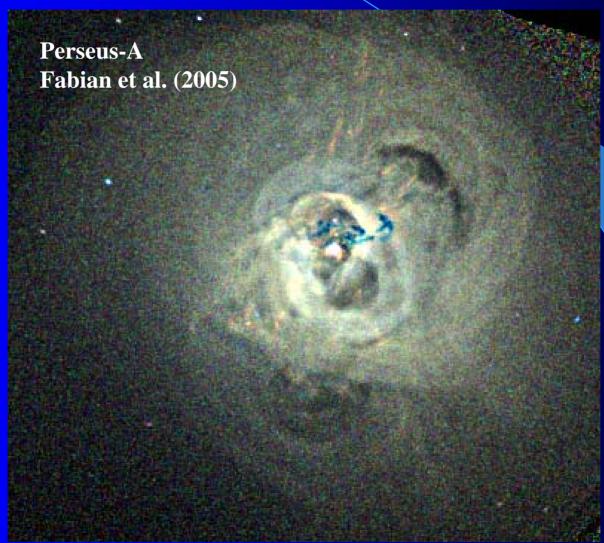


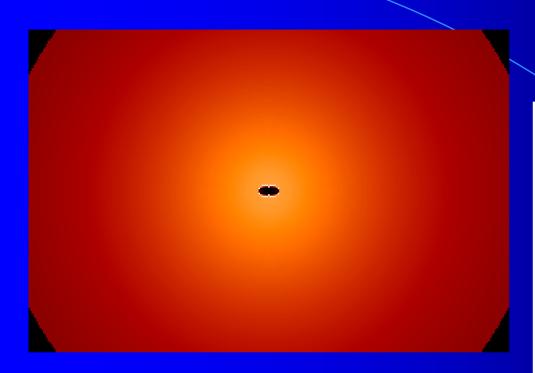


# Summary of strong gravity probes

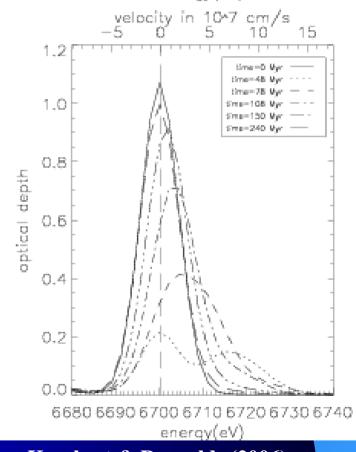
- Strong gravity component of Constellation-X science case still compelling
- S/N calculations backed by simulations demonstrate feasibility of iron line variability science
- Demonstrate need to preserve effective area in the 4-6keV band in any future trade studies.

## Epilogue: iron absorption lines as probe of AGN/ICM interaction





Probe dynamics of AGN/ICM interaction through ICM absorption lines... readily open to Constellation-X



Koeckert & Reynolds (2006)

